

Meigs County

Telegraph.

33 per annum.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL--DEVOTED TO POLITICS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, COMMERCE, AND NEWS.

\$1.50 in advance

A. THOMSON,

"Independent in all things--Neutral in nothing."

Editor and Proprietor

WHOLE NO 413.

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Methodist Episcopal--Rev. A. G. Byers, Pastor. Services every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock. Every Sabbath evening at 7 o'clock.

United Brethren--Rev. J. C. Golden, Pastor. Services every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock. Every Sabbath evening at 7 o'clock.

German Lutheran--Rev. P. Field, Pastor. Services every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock. Every Sabbath evening at 7 o'clock.

German Evangelical Presbyterian (on Elm street)--Rev. L. Twombly, Pastor. Services every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock. Every Sabbath evening at 7 o'clock.

German Presbyterian (on Plum street)--Rev. L. Twombly, Pastor. Services every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock. Every Sabbath evening at 7 o'clock.

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Wesleyan (New School)--Rev. John H. Jones, Pastor. Services every Sabbath at 10 o'clock. A. M. and P. M.

Wesleyan (Old School)--John T. Williams, Pastor. Services every Sabbath at 10 o'clock. A. M. and P. M.

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D. H. G. WATERMAN, Office, his professional services to the citizens of Rutland and vicinity, O. nov. 7--m2.

BANKERS.

DANIEL & RATHGURN, Bankers, Front street, Pomero, O.

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THE INSURANCE COMPANY, of Hartford, Conn., O. Branch, Agent, Court street, Pomero, O.

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BRANCH & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, etc., Hardware, Queensware, &c. East side of Court street, three doors above the corner of Front, Pomero, O.

PLANING MACHINES, &c.

DAVIS & MORTON, on Sugar Run, Pomero, have the best Planing Machine in good order and constant operation. Flooring, weather boarding, &c. kept constantly on hand, and will order.

HOTELS.

U. S. HOTEL, AND STAGE OFFICE, four doors above the Rolling Mill, Pomero, Meigs county, O. M. A. WOOD, Proprietor.

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GEORGE McQUIGG & Co., Tanners and Curriers, Ball street, (on Sugar Run), Pomero, O.

MANUFACTURES.

POMEROY ROLLING MILL COMPANY, Front street, Pomero, O. Have constantly on hand and made to order, numerous kinds of iron. Orders solicited, and promptly executed.

W. K. JENNINGS, Superintendent.

COALPORT SALT COMPANY, Office in Cooper's Building, Coalport, O. Salt for Country Trade. Retail, Thirty-five cents per bushel. Orders constantly on hand for sale. Jan. 2, 1857.

SUGAR RUN SALT COMPANY, Pomero, Salt. Thirty-five cents per bushel. Office near the Fair-grounds. C. GRANT, Agent.

POMEROY SALT COMPANY, Pomero, O. Salt for Bulk and Retail. Orders constantly on hand for Country Trade.

DARNEY SALT COMPANY, Coalport, Salt for Bulk and Retail. Orders constantly on hand for Country Trade.

STORES AND TINWARE.

W. E. PRALL, Manufacturer of Tinware, and Dealer in every variety of Stores, etc., opposite the Court-House, Pomero.

MILLS.

STEAM RAIL MILL, near Court street, Pomero, near S. K. R. R. Mill, N. Y. Proprietor. Lumber sawed to order on short notice. Plastering lab constantly on hand for sale. Jan. 2, 1857.

COALBURN FLOURING MILL, Pomero, and Crystal Flouring Mill, Coalport, Meigs & Nye, Proprietors. Cash paid for Wheat and all kinds of grain.

DENTISTRY.

D. C. WHALEY, Surgeon Dentist, Hummer's building, 2nd Street, Rutland street, Middleport, O. All kinds of dentistry in season. Groceries exchanged for produce on fair terms. Dec. 30.

GROCERIES.

JESSE STAFFORD, Grocery and Provision Store, 1st Street, next door to post-office, Pomero, O. All kinds of groceries in season. Groceries exchanged for produce on fair terms. Dec. 30.

FOR THE TELEGRAPH.

EMERSON AND MEIGS--WE MISS THEM.

We miss them at the twilight hour,

When darkness broods around;

'Tis then the spirits hover,

Responding to each mournful sound.

We miss them at all hours,

At morn, and noon, and night;

But like bright flowers,

Whom'er their beauty they pore,

Or joined in playful mirth.

We miss them every where;

We look in vain to see

Those beloved forms so fair,

With hearts so light and free.

But though we miss them now,

And tears must often flow,

We'll in humble meekness bow

To Him who struck the blow.

We trust that they are gone

To regions bright and fair;

Thence let us cease to mourn,

For we hope to meet them there.

ADA.

Professor E. L. Youmans' Lecture.

THE CHEMISTRY OF THE SUNBEAM--THE ORIGIN OF FORCE--STELLAR INFLUENCES.

Prof. Edward L. Youmans delivered a lecture on the "Chemistry of the Sunbeam," before the Young Men's Christian Association, at Hope Chapel, on Wednesday evening. The weather was bitter cold, but the attendance was nevertheless very large.

Prof. Youmans commenced by referring to the picture in an old almanac, of a wretched, ill-used man, pierced with sharp instruments, and surrounded by a party of misanthropes, evidently rejoicing in his torments. In his boyhood he had a profound sympathy for this distressed gentleman, but he afterwards learned that the figure was only emblematic of the condition of all mankind. The ancients believed that each of the twelve constellations of the zodiac ruled over a specific portion of the human body; that all the events of life were under the control of influences or radiations from the heavenly bodies. To calculate the time and measures of these influences was the business of the astrologer. Medicine was an art of divination. Remedies were supposed to possess threefold efficacy when prepared and administered in the hour of the culmination of the planet which especially ruled the part affected. The alchemist seeking the philosopher's stone and the elixir of life, wrought in his underground recess under the guidance of astrology. All the metals were distributed among the planets. The influence of the Sun produced gold, the Moon silver, Mercury quicksilver, Jupiter tin, Saturn lead, Mars iron, Venus copper. Traces of this belief is found in modern chemical and medical books, which speak of martial preparations, or those of iron, lunar calcium and saturnine combinations of lead. Thus, in the infancy of his being, man began to dream of the wide-reaching unities of nature; in dim and vague conjecture he began to bind together the extremes of the universe.

In the progress of knowledge, astrology and alchemy lost their mysticism, and became astronomy and chemistry. They were deemed independent sciences, and for a long time the chemist and the astronomer had no dealings; but the further development of science has led to their meeting again in a remarkable manner. He proposed in this lecture to show the relations of these two sciences--the points at which they intersect.

In the errors of the ancients we shall find veins of truth. Many of the sober, matter-of-fact demonstrations of modern science possess a degree of sublimity and grandeur equaling, if not surpassing, the boldest flights of ancient Oriental fancy.

On the globe which we inhabit, there is a constant activity, movement, demonstration of force. The atmosphere, the ocean, the streams, vegetable and animal life, electricity and steam, are constantly in motion--continually developing force. The question arises, what is the cause or source of all these various forms of movement? Undoubtedly the primary, highest source, is the all-sustaining, all-impelling will of the Most High; but as reasoning beings, we are to inquire by what mighty method does that will work? Is there anything

co-ordinate in all His laws which it is possible for us to understand? Modern science answers that the sunbeam is the fountain of all force. Power is of celestial origin, and is the property, not of the earth exclusively, but of the universe.

The earth furnishes dead, inert matter, and the heavens furnish forces that throw it into movement and life. The divine plan is demonstrable to the commonest form of movement. It is impossible to lift the hand or wink the eye without employing particles of force that have traversed hundreds of millions of miles of space.

First, let us understand what is the constitution of the earth, which turns over daily, presenting every part of its surface to the action of the radiations from the heavens. We must know this to understand how the radiations link in. We can inspect the surface of the earth to study its chemical structure, and we have dug down about a mile. Geology also gives us an idea of the composition a little further down, and volcanoes have thrown up for our inspection melted matter from unknown depths. We find the earth's crust to consist generally of granitic rocks and stratified rocks resting upon the granite. As the strata are almost invariably in an inclined position, we walk on the edges of the sheets, and have beneath our feet specimens of what exists below. All over the world the rocks have a wonderful identity. The granite of the Alps and the Andes, the marble of Vermont and of Italy, are alike to the chemist; and from Saham is just like sand from Coney Island. So it is with the analysis of soils, which result from the rotting down of rocks. The earth as it revolves shows the same materials on every side.

Now, what are these materials? They number only about sixty, when reduced to their lowest denominations, as we may divide a language, first into books, then into chapters, into sentences, into words, and finally into letters or simple sounds. Most of these primary materials are so rare that, for our purposes, we have to do with only ten or a dozen. These are iron, calcium, magnesium, &c., which go to form rocks, never in a single elementary state, but always in pairs. None of the metals combine with each other alone, but there is an all pervading substance called oxygen, which combines with each and all the materials of rocks--a kind of cement, by which rocks are bound together.

Oxygen is the most abundant as well as the most powerful substance in nature.

Its proportion in sandstone, limestone and granite, is one-half; in water, (a very abundant substance,) eight-ninths; in the animal world, three-fourths; in the vegetable world, four-fifths. At least one-half of the whole crust of the earth consists of this one substance. It is natural that we should have curiosity to know what manner of thing is this important substance. If we were before the audience in a glass vessel it could not be seen. It mixes up with all the changes of the earth, acts everywhere with the most intense energy, and yet when drawn from its hiding-place by the sorcery of the chemist, it comes forth, shrinking from human gaze, an invisible power. The air around us is full of it. We are constantly breathing it. The air is made of eighty per cent. nitrogen and twenty per cent. oxygen, but the nitrogen is an inert, lazy substance, and for the purpose of this lecture we may consider the atmosphere as pure oxygen. Having wrestled down and embraced the whole crust of the earth, reducing all in its grasp to stillness and death, there is yet a superabundance of this powerful substance which constitutes the atmosphere. We live in it, all the transactions of life are going on in it, and yet it has only one faculty--it can do nothing but destroy--nothing but burn. It mingles with carbon and hydrogen, and burns as it mingles. All the waters of the earth are but the ashes of burned hydrogen. In all combustion there must be a substance capable of combining with oxygen, but not already combined. Thus, a candle is made of carbon and hydrogen, and its combustion by union of these substances with oxygen of the air, simply changes their form to carbonic acid gas and vapor of water, evolving at the same time light and heat. Stones will not burn, because they have already all the oxygen they want. This is the simple theory of all its combustion to the world. From burned carbon is produced carbonic acid, and from burned hydrogen, water.

What is the relation of oxygen to the living body? Every animal is busy drawing in and throwing out air--an increasing tidal ebb and flow. The oxygen of the air passes through the membranes of the lungs, is taken up by the blood and carried to all parts of the body. It does here what it does everywhere--it burns. Slow combustion goes on in the body, and carbonic acid and water are produced. This combustion is necessary to keep up heat and fever, and the oxygen of the air must have carbon and hydrogen, in the form of food and drink, to feed upon. Cut off a man from everything but air, and the oxygen at every breath will cut away a portion of his own frame. The most combustible parts are first consumed, he grows lighter and more emaciated every hour. First, the fat disappears, then the muscles are assailed, and lastly, the devouring giant, oxygen, attacks the brain and nerves, delirium ensues, and death closes the scene. Men say he has starved to death, but the scientific truth is that he has been burned to cinders.

All the changes of combination produce a force. A bushel of coal will produce heat enough, mechanically applied, to raise 60,000 tons one foot high in a minute.

Just so with the animal body. If you run, you breathe faster, and if you drive your steam engine, you put in more fuel and open the draft. Men with full chests generate more than men with feeble lungs. Over every square inch of the globe

there is a column of air weighing fifteen pounds--that is twelve pounds of nitrogen and three pounds of oxygen. A man, by breathing twenty-four hours, takes out two pounds of oxygen, or all the air above two-thirds of a square inch of the earth's surface. In seventy years he uses all the oxygen over one hundred and eighteen square feet. Besides he vitates or poisons ten times as much; so that in seventy years he has in fact used up all the air over 12,000 feet. A steamship in crossing the Atlantic consumes about 130,000 square feet. We have the entire animal world, co-operating with the world of combustion, in changing the composition of the atmosphere. Every demonstration of force, every movement of the piston rod, every waive of the hand affects the condition of the air. Processes of decomposition, going on everywhere, do the same thing. Death and decay join in with the living forces to rob the atmosphere of its oxygen. And yet it continues perfectly respirable, pure, and unaltered from age to age.

The lecturer here explained the diagrams, showing the correspondence between the action of the human body and the steam engine, as regards consumption of fuel, production of heat and the resultant of force and the causes of derangement. He did not propose to call man a mere steam engine; on the contrary, it was a high compliment to his intelligence that he had been able to devise a machine so wonderfully analogous to the process of nature, as developed in his own structure.

Why does the air remain unaltered notwithstanding all the influences at work upon it? Sir Isaac Newton conjectured that it is the business of the comets to carry and fetch whatever is required for the planets, and that, perhaps, they bring the vital air, and carry away whatever we do not want. Newton was too early for this discussion. It is remarkable that with all the intellectual force of the past, this problem of the composition of the atmosphere has only been solved in our day. Men are now living who remember when oxygen gas was first discovered by Dr. Priestley--when the air was first taken to pieces. The same materials once consumed in the air are restored and used over again. Go to the vegetable world and we get the solution. Vegetation is the opposite--the complement of combustion.

What is the import of a plant--the architecture of a tree? Every little seed contains an infant plant or tree within it, which is revealed by the microscope. When the tree grows up it expands into branches and boughs, and finally into little fluttering thin plates, called leaves, arranged on elastic stems and spread out apart so best to take the air. Evidently there is something to be done to the air or by the air. Now the chemistry of the leaf is simple as is the chemistry of the flame, and its action is just the reverse. It draws in constantly from the air hydrogen and oxygen, in the form of water and carbonic acid. The leaf exists in the air in the proportion of only one in two thousand parts, but the leaf is provided with thousands of little mouths, and we know that it seeks out the acid and absorbs it, although it may acquire some through the roots. From these absorbed elements it manufactures new substances, but sets free the oxygen into the air. The leaf produces oil, starch, sugar, wood, coal, and other substances,--all nearly or quite destitute of oxygen, and therefore combustible--restores the oxygen to the air, providing the materials for renewed combustion. All this, with the chemist, is a settled thing--a mere matter of experiment.

The vegetable world is only a link in the chain of forces. No chemist has power with fire, electricity, and all the forces he can command, to tear asunder carbonic acid and oxygen, when they have once got together. There is a chemistry going on in the vegetable world far more powerful than that. Carbon and oxygen stay together with the same enormous force with which they combine, for if they were to combine with a force of 100, and separate with a force of only 90, you would clear ten per cent. at every revolution, and this would give perpetual motion, which is forbidden in the nature of things. Nature has established an inalienable equation in all her works. You cannot create or destroy either force or matter; you may only change the form of the one and the direction of the other.

The leaf does not create force; it is the passive agent for receiving and imparting forces. Now what is the intrinsic source of force imparted to the leaf? It is the sunbeam. All over the surface of the earth we have a vegetable carpet of green. All the leaves of all the trees are green, and all contain the same chemical substance appropriate for receiving the sun's rays.

We know that vegetation languishes in the shade and pushes on with vigor where the rays of the sun are intense. At the equator it is luxuriant; at the poles it scarcely exists. It is fully proved that the leaf decomposes carbonic acid only in the day time. There may be subordinate changes going on in the trees and a sort of growth at night, but the leaf rests from its labors until the return of light and the influences of the solar ray. Thus we have animal power derived from the leaf. Cut off the air and you stop all life; cut off the oxygen derived from the leaf, and the air becomes poisonous and dead. Oxygen is derived from the leaf only through the force of the sunbeam, with which it is directly connected, so that all animal power exists only by means of the solar ray. We have wood formed by means of the leaf, and from this coal, or pure carbon, beneath the earth's surface. Oxygen combines with the coal, in combustion, and we get steam power. The galvanic battery is only another form of combustion, the material for which has been formed by

the sunbeam. The metal was brought out from the ore in the smelting furnace, from the bringing together of carbon and oxygen, and may, therefore, be regarded only as imprisoning forces. The earth then furnishes only the dead matter, while the sunbeam provides the vivifying forces.

The lecturer here exhibited and explained an ingenious diagram of the decomposition of a white ray of sunlight, by means of the prism, showing that the ray contains three distinct forces. The luminous force causes vegetation, and keeps nature in a healthy state of equilibrium. The caloric force expands all bodies with which it comes in contact, driving into them an infinite number of little wedges. It sways Bunker Hill Monument to and fro, and deflects an inch and a half a strong iron bridge which a heavy railway train could only spring one-eighth of an inch. The sunbeam heats the atmosphere and keeps it in constant motion. It falls upon the ocean and lifts it up as vapor, to descend in rain, making springs, and brooks, and mighty rivers. It is the sunbeam that turns all the water-wheels.

The third force, distinct from the others, is the chemical force. It is this which paints the daguerreotype. All these forces are refracted at different angles by the prism, and occupy different positions in the solar spectrum. Chemical force is most active in the violet color, but a daguerreotype may be taken beyond the colored rays in the dark.

We are familiar with that substance which produces derangement in the brain, when mind and matter meet--alcohol. Take a drop of water from that, and you have a new substance which destroys all consciousness of pain, and is known as ether. Wet your handkerchief in nitric and sulphuric acid combined by the druggist, then put it into a cannon, and if you fire it off, it will explode with such force as to tear the iron tube into fragments. This is gun cotton. Dissolve your gun cotton in ether, and you have still a new product. Spread this over glass, and expose it to the sunbeams, and you get a picture--the daguerreotype. The third or chemical force has looked in and produced a change in the plate, and your picture is the consequence.

It is now firmly believed that the sun belongs to a great colony of stars, and that all the fixed stars are suns from which forces emanate as those proceeding from the centre of our system. Sirius, when observed through a powerful telescope, gives a light so intense, that a colored glass is required to protect the eye. A body that shines through almost incalculable space with such power, borrows no light, but is itself an original fountain of forces. The star beams are found to contain light and heat, and the stars have daguerreotypes themselves. Their forces appear to be identical with those of the sun beam.

It is estimated that the sun's rays in the course of a year would melt a sheet of ice enveloping the globe, one hundred feet thick. But the sun revolves once in twenty-five days, and is 95,000,000 of miles distant, so that we get only an insignificant fraction of its beams. The rest is not lost however; it passes away into space, and helps to warm the universe, as the stellar beams reach us. This mighty system of exchange is always going on between the stars. The amount of heat we receive annually from all the stars, is said by Dr. Lardner, and others who have examined the subject, to be sufficient to melt eighty-five feet of ice, and it is conjectured that the power of the sun alone would hardly be sufficient to maintain the present condition of things on our globe.

The nearest star is reckoned to be sixty millions of millions of miles from us--a distance which light requires ten years to traverse--yet not only this, but stars so remote, even to the nebulae, at thousands of years' elapse before the light can reach us, send to us forces adapted to our wants, appreciated by the human body, detached through the medium of the eye, subordinate to all the laws of human physiology.

These globes, so vast in their magnitudes and distances as to be beyond the reach of human conceptions, are yet identical in form with those minute globules of the blood, twenty millions of which perish at every beat of the pulse. Is there any relationship between the globes of the blood and the globes of the stellar regions? Is there a direct dynamic relation between the circulation of the human body and the circulating medium which is of celestial coinage? Science can only suggest the inquiry.

It is remarkable that all living things have sprung from the atmosphere. We can hardly realize that the flowers themselves, so fragrant and beautiful have been distilled from the pure and stainless medium which pervades them. Are they not impalpable filaments of light, interwoven with the subtle elements of the leaf by the swiftly flying shadows of the stars? What more insignificant to the untrained eye, than the leaf or the blade of grass, yet to the instructed they are sublime. They are the doors leading from chaos to the world of organic order--from death to life.

In that laboratory of truths, the human brain, matter is brought into intimate relationship with spirit, and to prepare for this relationship, the awful engineering of stellar influences is kept in motion. The forces of the universe culminate in mind. If all living being have been radiated and condensed from the floating, intangible air, is it not fit that the forces which control them should have a celestial origin? If oxygen, the destroying element, is indivisible, can it surprise us that the grand forces of antagonism which oppose it should be the essence of the stars? And if our sun be actually a star, if the earth we inhabit be a thing of life and beauty and glory only by these her astronomical relations, if the

sunbeam be the messenger of God that travels these awful spaces to people our otherwise desolate globe, and if the whole spaces of the heavens are filled with these life exciting forces, can there be a doubt that life, the grand resultant, is co-existent--that it must be and is as universal as its cause?

Prof. Youmans concluded by calling attention to a new work on chemistry, written by him, and just published by the Appleton's, which treats more in detail the topics of his lecture. The book is got up in splendid style, contains numerous colored engravings, and is sold for two dollars.

At the close of the lecture, Rev. Dr. Dewitt moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer. The